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October 22, 2019

Regional Freedom of Information Officer  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard (MI-10J)  
Chicago, IL 60604-3590  
(312) 886-6803

Dear Regional Freedom of Information Officer,

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552 et seq., this letter requests copies of the following records from the United States Environmental Protection Agency regarding NPDES permit number IN0000337 issued for the U. S. Steel Corporation—Midwest Plant, which is located at U.S. Highway 12, Portage, IN 46368:

- All documents related to the above-referenced permit and/or wastewater treatment at the above-referenced facility, including all DMR reports that the facility has filed since January 1, 2017.
- All documents related to any NPDES permit violations and resolutions, including but not limited to any compliance commitment agreements and settlement agreements.

I request a full fee waiver under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii) (stating that fee waivers “shall” be granted where “disclosure of the information is in the public interest because [the information] is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester”). The Abrams Environmental Law Clinic is not a commercial entity, and the records are not requested for commercial or personal benefit. The Clinic intends to disseminate the requested information to members of the public. Provision of this information will contribute significantly to public understanding and will be used to help maintain a healthful environment for the residents of the State of Indiana. A waiver of fees would accordingly be in the public interest.

If the United States Environmental Protection Agency is unwilling to waive fees, I ask you to provide an estimate of the cost by document and type before proceeding to make copies of the requested records.

I can be reached by e-mail at [rweinstock@uchicago.edu](mailto:rweinstock@uchicago.edu). I appreciate your efforts in responding to this inquiry by the statutory deadline.

Sincerely,



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